

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Fall 2006

Volume 14, Number 3



George I Farthing of 1721 – Unusual Type I Brockage

Featured in this issue

- Counterfeit NE Cooper Shillings and 6d
- Circulation Patterns of Early Spanish Silver
- Rarity Scales
- Elder Describes a Willow Tree Shilling
- ANS' First "Numismatic Conversation" (Connecticut Coppers)
- Unusual George I Brockage

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In the last C4 Newsletter was an article entitled "CIRCULATION PATTERNS OF SMALL DENOMINATION REGAL SPANISH SILVER IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY DURING COLONIAL, CONFEDERATION AND EARLY FEDERAL TIMES" by Wayne H. Shelby. Three tables summarizing his findings were inadvertently omitted. With apologies to Wayne, these three tables are provided below. They should be inserted into Volume 14 #3 as page 23a. Editor.

TABLE 4. Spanish Silver Coins Recovered from Each Site Class by General Coin Type

Site Class	Cob Total	Plataaan Total	Pillar Total	Bust Total	Bust Carolus III 1772-88	Bust Carolus III 1788-98	Bust Ferdinand VII 1808+	Bust Ruler Not Legible	Total Spanish Silver Recovered
MOST TO ALL COPPERS POST-DATE 1800	2%	5%	8%	88%	71%	8%	3%	5%	66
MOST TO ALL COPPERS PRE-DATE 1800	0%	0%	27%	73%	55%	9%	0%	9%	11
MOST COPPERS PRE-DATE 1700	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2
Total									79

TABLE 5. Spanish Silver Coins as Percentages of Total Coins Recovered By Site Class and General Coin Type

Site Class	Cob Total	Plataaan Total	Pillar Total	Bust Total	Bust Carolus III 1772-88	Bust Carolus III 1788-98	Bust Ferdinand VII 1808+	Bust Ruler Not Legible	Total Coins Recovered
MOST TO ALL COPPERS POST-DATE 1800	<1/2%	1/2%	<1%	10%	8%	<1%	<1/2%	1/2%	598
MOST TO ALL COPPERS PRE-DATE 1800	0%	0%	1%	3%	2%	<1/2%	0%	<1/2%	303
MOST COPPERS PRE-DATE 1700	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10
Total									909

TABLE 6. Percentage of Sites Yielding Spanish Silver by Site Class

MOST TO ALL COPPERS POST-DATE 1800	Total sites included in Table 1: Sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver: Percentage of sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver:	37 25 68%
MOST TO ALL COPPERS PRE-DATE 1800	Total sites included in Table 2: Sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver: Percentage of sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver:	31 5 16%
MOST COPPERS PRE-DATE 1700	Total sites included in Table 3: Sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver: Percentage of sites with recovered Spanish America/Spain silver:	1 1 100%

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Roger Moore at the address listed on page 1. Dues are \$20-regular (including 1st class mailing of the Newsletter). \$10 for junior members (under 18), \$400 for Life Membership (or 4 quarterly payments of \$100).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There's just one month to go before we meet again at the C4 Convention! I'm getting excited! Plans are under way. Educational events are lined up. The photography and cataloging of the auction consignments are in the final stages. Rooms are reserved. There should be more information about the convention elsewhere in this newsletter.

Much has been happening in the hobby the past few months. The Stack's auction of the Ford Collection continues. Another Norweb auction will be held in November. Stack's and American Numismatic Rarities have merged into one company, "Stack's Rarities." The strong qualities of each auction firm complement each other and will make the new firm even more versatile in this technology-orientated age. On October 25, The Newman Money Museum opened its doors to the public. It is located on the campus of the Washington University in St. Louis. Eric Newman needs no introduction to us – I look forward to visiting the museum in April 2007. Several colonial rarities have appeared on ebay – it's always exciting to watch how these auctions progress and end!

Of significant importance are the Numismatic Conversations held by the ANS in New York. The very first Conversation had Connecticut Coppers as its topic. The ANS plans to hold one each month, with topics ranging from ancient to modern coinage. I have had the pleasure of helping with some of the technical aspects of broadcasting these events live on a website. At the moment, the web broadcast is in the experimental stage, but hopefully it will be fully operational by the COAC this November. With the knowledge I'm gaining here, I hope that C4 may be able to do something similar in the future. It would be wonderful to have our educational forums available online to those that couldn't attend the convention. It won't happen this year, but I'm hoping for 2007.

Not all that is new in the hobby is pleasant. The ANA has been going through difficult times in the numismatic press for the past year. The ANA is important to all areas of the hobby, including colonials. The press has been critical of the current ANA Board, Officers and operating procedures. That being said, I would like to say that although C4 doesn't have an official position on these issues, C4 is an ANA member club. It is my personal opinion that whatever current issues are, I will support the ANA as an organization. Since the *Numismatist* (ANA's official monthly publication) has gone to the large magazine format, the articles have become much more interesting to the colonial enthusiast. The ANA has a lending library available to all members. Have you thought about purchasing that \$50 book but didn't know if it is worth the money to you... borrow it first from the ANA Library and then decide. The ANA Conventions, Numismatic Theaters, YN Programs (and much more) make the ANA an organization worthwhile supporting. If you have a problem with officers or policy, vote appropriately when elections come. But please consider supporting the ANA through membership.

Thinking about elections, C4 Officers will be installed at the C4 Convention during our annual business meeting. There were no contested positions this year, but there is one new officer. After over a decade of service to C4 at many levels, Dan Freidus has decided not to run for Region 4 Vice President. I would like to take a minute and thank

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Dan for all his contributions and I'm sure he'll continue to contribute to C4 without the title. Accepting the nomination for Region 4 VP is Ed Sarrafian. Ed has a passion for colonial numismatics that is infectious. I look forward to working with Ed and the rest of your officers over the next two years.

I'll end this president's message with a THANK YOU for your confidence by allowing me to continue another term as C4 President. Our hobby is an important part of our lives and I consider it a great honor that you've allowed me to serve in this capacity. As with all the C4 officers, I am very approachable. Feel free to call, write or email anytime – we are here for you.

See you in Boston,
Ray Williams

Annual C4 Convention (November 30 - December 3, 2006)

Location: Bay State Coin Show
Boston, MA
Radisson Hotel (Theater District)
617-482-1800 (for reservations only...not for show information)
and ask for the special "Bay State Coin Show" rates

Tentative Convention Schedule:

Thursday Nov 30th

4:30 - 8:30 Dealer Setup on Bourse Floor
8:30 - ? C4 Reception

Friday December 1st

8:00 AM Bourse open to Dealers
10:00 AM Bourse open to the Public
11:00 - 5:00 C4 Auction Lot Viewing
7:00 Bourse Closed

Friday Evening Educational Events:

5:30 to 7:00 NJ Copper Symposium
7:00 to 7:30 Refreshments
7:30 to 11:00 Educational Events
(to be announced)

Saturday December 2nd

7:00 AM C4 Board Breakfast Meeting
8:30 AM C4 Annual Membership Meeting

8:00 AM Bourse open to Dealers
10:00 AM Bourse open to the Public
10:00 - 5:00 Auction Lot Viewing
1:00 - 2:00 Educational Presentation for the General Public
6:15 Pre-Auction Refreshments
6:30 - Annual C4 Auction

Sunday December 3rd

8:00 AM Bourse open to Dealers
10:00 AM - Bourse open to the Public
10:00 AM - Auction Lot Pick Up Begins

COUNTERFEIT NEW ENGLAND COPPER SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

(John N. Lupia III)

INTRODUCTION. The existence of copper New England colonial coinage does not appear to be part of the authorized coinage minted by John Hull.¹ Consequently, we are left to assume that the various copper specimens known through time are counterfeit pieces manufactured at different periods. "When," "where," and by "whom" are questions regarding these counterfeits that are not easily answered.

We do know for certain that about twelve sets of New England coinage specimens were made from dies caused to be made by Thomas Wyatt around the summer of 1856, based on engravings made by Joseph Barlow Felt (1789-1869) to illustrate his book seventeen years earlier.² "Wyatt's copies are known in both silver and copper."³

"Mr. Edwin Bishop, late of New York, informed me many years ago that the dies for the Wyatt counterfeits having come into his possession he struck a few sets, regular in form; in Silver and Copper; that he then took an English guinea and, using the obverse dies of Wyatt's good Samanitan and Pine tree shillings, he struck this coin; that he made no similar one in any metal whatever, but immediately destroyed the dies. Hence this die is strictly unique and must ever remain so, both as regards metal and impression. At the sale of Mr. Bishop's Collection, Dec. 17, 1863, it was purchased by Mr. Lighthody for \$42.50 which, considering its great rarity, and desirability was not an immoderate price."⁴

This brief essay reviews those few citations that bear or may have some bearing on other counterfeits beyond those of Wyatt and Bishop.

1. Pickering and the "Boston Money."

A Pennsylvania lawyer named Charles Pickering is one of the earliest counterfeiters of coinage on record in colonial America.⁵

"In 1683, Pickering was tried for setting up a private mint for the 'Quoining of Spanish Bitts and Boston money', for which he was fined 40 lb and directed to redeem all that he had already issued. It doesn't appear that this conviction was followed by any sort of social condemnation, and the council, in 1685, passed a resolution that, in privileges and freedom, he stood in 'Equal Capacity' with the other colonists."⁶

On of 8th mo. [October] 1683, Charles Pickering, Samuel Buckley, and Robert Fenton, 'for putting away had money,' are put to their trial. The

foreman of the jury desired that the prisoner, C. P. would tell him who had the money of that he paid to several people; but he sought to evade, saying 'the money any person received of him, he would change it, and that no man should lose by him.' The governor (William Penn) charged the jury, and afterwards (the verdict of the jury being given), gave the sentence of the court that 'Charles Pickering should make full satisfaction in good and current pay to every person that shall within the space of one month bring in any of this false, base, and counterfeitt coyne, (to be called in by proclamation), and that it shall be melted into gross before returned to thee, and thou shalt pay a fine of 40 Pounds towards the building of a court house in this towne, and stand committed till payd, and find security for thy good abearance'. The sentence of Samuel Buckley was, that 'the court, considering thee more ingenious than he who went before thee, hath thought fit to fine thee 10 Pounds towards a public court house'. And Robert Fenton, 'because of his being a servant and of his ingenuity, [candor] in confessing the truth, is to set an hour in the stocks on the next day'.⁷

Harrold Edgar Gillingham (1864-1954), who was, perhaps, the first American numismatist to cite this case, wrote:

"A warrant was issued for Charles Pickering and Samuel Buckley, and they were accused "in Quining of Spanish Bitts and Boston money, to the Great Damage and abuse of ye subjects thereof."⁸

"Pennypacker, in his *Pennsylvania Colonial Cases*, says that Pickering's offense was merely an unauthorized attempt to supply the colony with change of an intrinsic value equal to the Spanish coin and the New England shilling."⁹

Edward R. Barnsley transcribed the text of the trial published in the *Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania* and republished them in *The Colonial Newsletter*.

"Rob't Felton being attested, The Question was put to him whether or no he rec'd any Silver of Charles Pickerin, to Quine for him; he answered yes, 24 pounds of Bard Silver; he also made the Seales, & Charles Pickerin & Sam'll Bukley helped him to make the Bitts. Quest: what did they add to the allay of ye 15lb 2es; about 4 es of Copper; and what to ye 9 lb 3 es of Copper, being the allay; he cannot be Exact how much the allay was, for they did sometimes put in more than he knew of.

Robert Felton also saith he had noe Silver brought to him, but by the psons above named, and he Scroopling to do it, the Silver having been already allayed, and if they did not put more Copper into it they would Loose by it; they said they would Bare him out in what he did for them.

The Gov'r telleth Ch: Pickering & Sam'll Buckley of their abuse to ye Governm't, in Quining of Spanish Bitts and Boston money, to the Great Damage and abuse to ye Subjects therof. The gov'r asked them wether or no they are Guilty of ye fact. They confess they have put of some of those new bitts, but they said that all their money was as good silver as any Spanish money, and also deny that they bad any band in the matter. Charles Pickering saith he will stand by it and be Tried; he declareth that he heard Jno. Rush Swere that he Spent halfe his time in making Bitts.

The gov'r asled Sam'll Buckley whether he did not help to melt money, or to put in ye Copper allay into ye Silver more then Should be, and to have been at ye Stamping of new Bitts, and Strikeing on the Stamp.

He Confessed he hath been guilty of somewhat of that; also, was there not to ye knowledge any brass or Copper put into the Silver that was melted? he Sayeth yes.

Also, whether or no thou didst not help Charl. Pickering's man to melt, and also to strike the bamer and See ye Seales, and disperse some of the Bitts, more or Less? he Sayeth yes.

Was there not more allay put into the Silver than Ordinary, and ye Person tould that Stamp it, that There was too much? he sayeth yes.

John Rush being sent for & Examined, Positively denyeth what Char. Pickering offermd.

The Gov'r Demands of Charl. Pickering and Sam'll Buckley to give Security, web accordingly was done.

Tho. Philips & Sam'll Bucley, Enter into Recognizance of five hundred pounds for Sam'll Buckley's appearance before this board when demanded, and not to goe out of towne without Leave.

Richd Wall and Char. Pickering binds themselves and Enter into Recognizance of five hundred pounds for Char. Pickering's appearance before this board, and not to goe out of towne without Leave.

Ordered yt ye Sherriff take Rob ffelton into Custody, & him safe to keep until further order.

Ordered, That an Indictmt be Drawne against Chr. Pickering & Sam'll Buckley, Grounded upon Evidence taken before this board.

Two of the Assembly, Jno Blumstone & Luke Watson, came to this board to be informed Concerning the Sberiffs, calling them ye Service of a

Grand Jury, and they were told it was about Corrupt money, and that it was not Compulsion, but with their Consent.

John Symcock Sent by ye Gov'r & Prov'll Councill to y Assembly, that Griffith Jones may have Liberty to come before this board to be Examined on Businesse of Moment.

Complaint being made to this board about New Bitts and New England Shillings, It was resolved that there should be a Proclamation Issued out forthwith to cry them downe.

Griffith Jones Attested, saith that Charles Pickering sent him Eight pounds in New Bitts to pay New England men, but they would not take it; therefore he went to Mary Bartholomew and changed fourty Shillings to make up a sune which Otherways he could not have done, and he promised to change it againe, and further Saith not.

The Grand Jury being called Over, went forth to find the Bill against Charles Pickering, and returned and found ye Bill as being a Heynous and Greivous Crime.

The Indictmt was read against ye Prisoner at ye Barr, to wch he answered not Guilty, and would be tried by his Country. The Attorney Genraill then opened ye Cause and called for his Witnesses as followed:

Caleb Pusey attested, Saith that Charles Pickering paid him 15lb in New Bitts, wch were produced in Court.

Griffith Jones Attested, Saith that he borrowed of the Prisoner Eight pounds in New Bitts, as they are now called.

Mary Bartholomew attested, saith that Griffith Jones came to her and desired her to change him fourty Shillings, shee said she would, provided he would change them againe, and he sayd he would; whereupon he had it, wherof some of ye pieces were produced in Court.

The foreman of the Jury desired that ye Prisoner would tell him who he had the money of that he payd to severall people, but he sought to Evade it, saying the money that any pson rec'd of him he would change it, and that noe man should Loose any thing by him.

The Govr gave ye Charge to ye Jury, and they went forth and returning againe, brought him in Guilty of ye Bill of Indictemt.

A bill to ye Grand Jury against Sam'll Buckley and Robt Fenton, which was found, and their Indictmts read against them; they both Confessed ye

fact, and the Petty Jury went forth and brought them in Guilty of their Indictmts. Sam'll Buckley & Robt ffenton, both Declare that Pickering and they two made the Money to gather, and Robt ffenton saith that he Cut the Seals for Charles Pickering, and that he was at worke there with them about a Week or more, and further saith, one pair was made before he absented himselfe, and one paire afterwards, and yt the mint was not in this Province, which was declared by both of ye aforesaid Prisoners.

After which, ye Govr Proceeded to give Sentence against ye Prisoners, wch is as followed.

Charles Pickering, The Court batb Sentenced thee for this high misdemeanor whereof thou hast been found Guilty by the Country, that thou make full Satisfaction in good and Currant pay to Every Person that shall within ye Space of one month, bring in any of this false, Base and Counterfeitt Coyne, (wch will to morrow by Proclamation be called in,) according to their respective proportions, and that the money brought in, shall be melted into gross before returned to thee, and that thou shalt pay a fine of fourty pounds into this Court, towards ye Building of a Court house in this Towne, and Stand committed till payd, and afterwards fined Security for thy good apearance.

Sam'll Buckley, the Court Considering thee to have been more Engenious then he that went before thee, hath thought fitt to fine thee, and doe fine thee tenn pounds towards a Public Court house here and to finds good Security for thy good apearance.

Robert ffenton, the Court having also Considered thy Ingenuity in Confessing the Truth of Matters, and that thou art a Servant, hath only Sentenced thee to Sitt an hour on the Stocks to morrow morning.

A proclamation was this day Issued out to put downe Bitts of Coyne so Called wch were Counterfeitted by Char: Pickering and also he to make satisfaction to all manner of Persons wronged by ye same."¹⁰

Samuel Pennypacker, *Annals of Phoenixville* (1872), notes that Pickering was tried and acquitted when it was found that his counterfeits contained as much silver as the King's coin. He died by drowning at sea on a return voyage to England.¹¹

II. New England Copper Coinages?

Newman doubts that Pickering actually counterfeited New England shillings. He purports that William Penn merely made the allegation and that no such counterfeiting of New England coinage actually took place.¹² Newman's argument is very weak since he cannot explain why Penn would make a baseless allegation and then prosecute Pickering for an

alleged crime that he did not commit. Second, Pennypacker and Gillingham who examined all of the 17th century documents of this case were both inclined to agree that New England shillings were indeed counterfeited. Third, the transcript of the trial says that Mary Bartholomew took forty of the New England shillings from Griffith Jones that were made by Pickering and exchanged them for coin that his men from New England would accept for payment. Fourth, we read, in 1884, Mason's discovery of counter-stamped 17th century Spanish copper bearing the New-England stamp and struck as shillings and sixpence. These specimens were never explained and could possibly be the sort of counterfeiting that Pickering had done passing off Spanish coins of lesser value for a greater value, though this is not in keeping with either Pennypacker and Gillingham. Yet, one other consideration, perhaps, is that Pickering merely used them as test pieces for his die stamps. This we cannot know without sufficient corroboratory evidence. Yet, Mason's remarks are very informative and might have some bearing on this case.

"We have before us several over stamped or counter stamped copper coins of Spain, the numerals marked exactly similar to the early New-England silver coins; and these over stamped pieces lead one strongly to believe they antedate the silver New-England pieces, and, if so, are the earliest of all New-England or Massachusetts coinages. One of the largest and thickest of these old Spanish coppers is over stamped XII.-s, evidently meaning shilling; and the date, also over stamped (within a beaded circle, resembling the Pine-Tree silver coins), is 1651; the size is about sixteen, American scale. Another of these coppers, a coin of Philip of Spain, dated 1618, is also over struck with the Roman numerals VI., meaning, perhaps, sixpence; and, on the opposite side, a counter mark in a circle, bearing the date 1647. These pieces certainly bear a strong relation, in the execution of the counter marks, to the New-England silver coins; and if they did not circulate as currency prior to the appearance of the silver coins of 1652, we are at a loss to explain their similarity to the latter, and their origin."¹³

III. A New England Stiver?

We find a New England copper coin classified as a "Stiver" (stuiver) or patard due to the device of "two lions aspectant," or facing each other. However, the Dutch stuiver is a silver coin, not copper, equal to one-twentieth of a guilder.¹⁴ The two lions are aspectant with both rampant bearings holding a central crowned shield or escutcheon. Whereas, the Dutch copper coin that circulated in colonial America was the duit, "worth one half a farthing."¹⁵ The two lions follow the same design as that of the silver coinage. On the subject specimen, however, the two lions are not poised in the traditional aspectant placement, or facing each other, but rather, accosted passant counter passant, or, passant repassant, i.e., the two lions are passing each other in contrary directions, charges placed on either side I. V and SC (or I S, V C depending on how one reads it.), and there is no central crowned shield or escutcheon. These deviations from the Dutch design opens up the question if it is even Dutch at all? One wonders if IV represents fourpence and SC the initials of the person who guaranteed its value, perhaps Sir Cecil?¹⁶ The initials or

acronym IVSC is not even similar to the VOC for the United Netherland East India Company. Regardless of the Dutch, or, perhaps possibly English heraldic flavor of the two lions, how can this enigmatic copper piece be explained with the obverse stamped with the legend : New/Engla/nd/W?

In 1860, Montroville Wilson Dickeson, is the first numismatist who mentions a "New England Copper" and a "Pine Tree Copper." Regarding the former, Dickeson tells us :

"This curious little piece is in the cabinet collection of Joseph J. Mickley, Esq., of Philadelphia, Pa. The description and the fac-simile convey all that can be said of it, so far as my knowledge, or any I have been able to obtain relative to it, extends. Though without date, it is antiquated enough in design and execution to warrant its being placed among the earliest of the colonial issues."¹⁷

In the Mickley coin auction catalog written by Woodward it is called "New England Stiver."¹⁸

In 1869, Dr. Edward Maris, reporting on the Mickley sale for Mason's Magazine citing the catalog entry quoting it exactly word-for-word and only adding the realized price states:

"New England Stiver; obv. New England, M; rev. I, S. V. C., two lions rudely executed to right and left in the field of the coin. See Dickeson, plate XX, 14. No one acquainted with the coins of Holland can hesitate for a moment as to the origin of this. It differs in no respect, in its general appearance and particular style of workmanship, from the Dutch Stiver of 200 years ago. Was there a Dutch settlement in New England at that very early period? Mr. Mickley with great ingenuity and probability, rendered the letters on the reverse, I S(tiver) V(on) C(onnecticut;) and here, for the present speculation may as well rest. So far as is known this piece is unique. Interesting it must be to every American numismatist and student; and it is not without reason, that its late owner regarded it not only as one of the most valuable, but also as one of the most important coins in his vast collection. In fine condition \$32.50."¹⁹

Sylvester Sage Crosby, subsequent to Dickeson, Woodward and Maris, included this coin in his numismatic study and publication on American colonial coins.

"The second token is known as the 'New England Stiver,' a small copper piece presumed to have originated in Holland, to furnish small change for some of the Dutch merchants of that day in New Amsterdam.

The letters on the obverse have been supposed to signify, 'I Stiver Von Connecticut' : we think it more probable that they were the initials of some Dutch trader, as I.S. Van C. It probably was not very extensively circulated, only one specimen, that in the collection of L. G. Parmalee,

being now known. We have no clue to the date of this issue, except in the style of its workmanship, which we should judge to be that of the seventeenth century."²⁰

The so-called "Stiver" was purchased by George Francis Seavey from Woodward in the Mickley sale and was later on sold by William Harvey Strobridge in the Parmalee/Seavey Sale from June 18-20, 1873.²¹

The history of the literature of this piece is rather obscure. Even David Galtfelter, who is typically well read and erudite regarding the survey of numismatic literature was apparently stymied by it as well. He is unaware of any of the publications and discussions of this coin prior to that of Crosby, and consequently, incorrectly characterized its time-frame for manufacture from 1650 to 1875.²² Galtfelter suggested it was either a merchant token or a communion token. About sixty years earlier B. W. Barnard followed Crosby when he suggested it was a merchant token "supposed to have originated in Holland to supply small change."²³ Walter H. Breen, however, classified and categorized this so-called "Stiver" under "Undated Apocryphal Farthings," calling it a "Farthing token."²⁴

IV. A Pine Tree Copper?

Regarding the latter piece or Pine Tree Copper, dated 1652, Dickeson says :

"This unique piece carries us back to the period of the coinage of the New England shillings, etc., bearing the same date, of which it was undoubtedly a contemporary. It bears the impress of being a genuine origination of the date inscribed upon it, though with its history I am not acquainted. It is now in the possession of John H. Curtis, Esq., of New York city, to whom I am indebted for the fac-simile."²⁵

The New York coin dealer John K. Curtis sold his coins at auction from June 21-23, 1859, published in a catalog by Bangs & Merwin.

V. More Evidence of New England Coppers?

Recently, Kays showed how 17th century Spanish coppers have been found to circulate in colonial Virginia.

"Small 17th century Spanish copper coins, termed vellón, including the inflationary maravedis resellos that were originally issued under Philip III and later inflated and restamped by Philip IIII and Charles II of Spain, are occasionally dug at early sites in the Tobacco Colonies."²⁶

In 1911, Henry Chapman published a notice in the Numismatist of a similar counterfeit:

"There has recently come into my possession from a gentleman in New Hampshire, a rank forgery of the N. E. shilling and sixpence. The shilling in silver and copper and the sixpence in silver only. As in previous forgeries, the die sinker has not noticed that the originals have been made from a punch, but has engraved a die with a circle around the N. E. and denomination which raises the letters N. E. and XII and VI and circle enclosing same, above the surface of the plain planchet. I warn collectors to be on their guard, and I am endeavoring to locate the maker of these forgeries. They were sent to me with a letter purporting they were in the family for a number of years, but my opinion is they are quite recent manufacture."²⁷

These counterfeit specimens were illustrated in the *Numismatist* with photographs two months later.²⁸

CONCLUSION. We have reviewed the literature on New England Coppers with the view that they are most likely counterfeits from the 17th to the early 20th centuries. Since, the counterfeits made by Pickering are never described as copper then the most we can consider regarding the notice supplied by Mason is that these pieces might have been used to test die punches or stamps -- if they relate to Pickering at all. The so-called "Stiver" is probably not Dutch but may have been a token yet unidentified. The 1652 Copper Pine Tree coin owned by the New York coin dealer John K. Curtis may be 19th century when silver counterfeits were struck, this being a test piece struck in copper. The New Hampshire specimens that surfaced in 1911 in the postal mail to Henry Chapman show that New England copper shilling counterfeits were made with an engraved die. The whereabouts of the Spanish copper over-struck Mason specimens are unknown. The so-called New England Stiver was last reported by Breen to be in the collection of Virgil Brand. The 1652 Pine Tree Copper, is also unknown as to its whereabouts, at least to this writer at the time of this report.

ENDNOTES

¹ There are no copper coins cited by Jordan. See Louis Jordan, *John Hull, The Mint and the Economics of Massachusetts Coinage*. (C4 Publications, 2002).

² Joseph Barlow Felt (1789-1869) *An Historical Account of the Massachusetts Currency*. (Boston : Printed by Perkins & Marvin, 1839). See also Don Taxay, *Counterfeit, Mis-Struck, and Unofficial U. S. Coins. A Guide For the Detection of Cast and Struck, Counterfeits, Electrotypes, and Altered Coins*. (New York : Arco Publishing Company, Inc., 1963) : 138, and notes 1 and 2.

³ Richard D. Kenney, "Struck Copies of Early American Coins," *The Coin Collectors Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 1, January-February, Whole No. 141 (1952) : 1

⁴ William Elliot Woodward, *Coin Auction Catalogue Property of Harlow E. Woodward, to be sold on November 18, 1878*. (Roxbury, Massachusetts, 1878) : lot 4606.

⁵ *Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, from the organization to the termination of the proprietary government*. [Mar. 10, 1683-Sept. 27, 1775] (Philadelphia : Printed by J. Severns, 1851-1852): 84-89, 91-92. Cited by Ed Barnsley in "Importation of Halfpence & Farthings on the Unicorn," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3, November, Serial No. 50 (1977) : 609.

⁶ J. Smith Futey and Gilbert Cope, *The History of Chester County*. (Philadelphia : Louis H. Everts, 1881)

⁷ John Fanning Watson (1779-1860), *Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, in the Olden Time; Being A Collection of Memoirs, Anecdotes, and Incidents of the City and Its' Inhabitants and of the Earliest Settlements of the Inland Part of Pennsylvania from the Days of the Founders. Intended to Preserve the Recollections of Olden Time, and to Exhibit Society in its Changes of Manners and Customs, and the City and Country in their Local Changes and Improvements.* by John F. Watson. (Philadelphia, Whiting & Thomas, 1856). Vol. 1, Chapter 28.

⁸ Gillingham, Harrold Edgar, "Counterfeiting in Colonial Days," *The Numismatist*, Vol. XLII, No. 6, June (1929) : 359-362. See also Gillingham, Harrold Edgar, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania, Numismatic Notes and Monographs*, No. 86. (New York: American Numismatic Society, 1939) : 6-7; Kenneth Scott, *Counterfeiting in Colonial Pennsylvania, Numismatic Notes and Monographs*, No. 132, (New York: American Numismatic Society, 1955) : 1-6.

⁹ *Ibid.*, see also Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker (1843-1916), *Pennsylvania Colonial Cases: the administration of law in Pennsylvania prior to A.D. 1700 as shown in the cases decided and in the court proceedings / by Samuel W. Pennypacker*. (Philadelphia : R. Welsb, 1892) : 32. *Pennsylvania Gazette*, July 9, 1730

¹⁰ Edward R. Barnsley, "The First Recorded Trial of Counterfeiters in America," *Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 17, No.1, Serial 51, April (1978) : 628-629

¹¹ Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker (1843-1916), *Annals of Phoenixville and its vicinity : from the settlement to the year 1871, giving the origin and growth of the borough with information concerning the adjacent townships of Chester and Montgomery counties and the valley of the Schuylkill / by Samuel Whitaker Pennypacker*. (Philadelphia : Bavis & Pennypacker, Printers, 1872).

¹² Eric P. Newman, "Comments on the Counterfeiting of "Spanish Bitts and New England Sbillings," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 17, October, Serial No. 53 (1978) : 666.

¹³ Ebenezer Locke Mason, Jr., "Something New Concerning Early New England Coins," *Mason's Monthly Illustrated Coin Collector's Magazine*, Vol. I, No. 2, July (1884) : 17.

¹⁴ Nicolaas Wilhelmus Posthumus (1880-1960), *Inquiry Into the History of Prices in Holland*. Publications of the International Scientific Committee on Price History Volume 1. (Leyden : E. J. Brill, 1946) : liv-lvii.

¹⁵ Mossman, Philip L., *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation. A Numismatic, Economic & Historical Correlation*. (New York : American Numismatic Society, 1993) : 67

¹⁶ If SC are the initials of an individual then C is the first letter of their surname. *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* has the following family names beginning with C : Volume 1: Chickering, Cade, Cushman, Clarke, Chatfield, Coggeshall, Clarke-Cook; Volume 2 : Chandler, Cowes, Collins, Chamber; Volume 3: Coggeshall, Cornwallis, Crosby.

¹⁷ Dickeson, M.D., Montroville Wilson, *The American Numismatic Manual of the Currency or Money of the Aborigines, and Colonial, State, and United States Coins. - On the Same Page It Continues - with Historical and Descriptive Notices of Each Coin or Series* by Montroville Wilson Dickeson, M.D., Member of the American Association for the Promotion of Science, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, and the Ethnological Society of New York; Fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Copenhagen, Etc. Etc. Illustrated by Twenty Plate of Fac-Similies - Second Edition. (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1860) : 252, plate XX, figure 14.

¹⁸ *Catalogue of the Numismatic Collection Formed by Joseph J. Mickley, Esq., of Philadelphia : Now the Property of W. Elliot Woodward of Roxbury, Mass.: To Be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., At the Book Trade Sales Room, Clinton Hall, Astor Place and Eighth Street, New York City, On Monday, October 28th, 1867.* (Roxbury, L. B. Weston, Printer, Guild Row, 1867) : see 130, lot 2302.

¹⁹ Dr. Edward Maris, MD, "Great Mickley Sale in New York," *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*, Vol. III, No. 6, June (1869) : 60. Maris is named as the author beginning with "Priced Catalogue of the Great Mickley Sale in N. Y.," *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*, Vol. 1, No. 9, December (1867) : 88; however, his name is not always included in the series as each insertion appeared over a two-year period.

²⁰ Sylvester Sage Crosby, *Early Coins of America*. (Boston, 1875) : 347, plate VIII, figure 13.

²¹ William Harvey Stobridge, *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Seavey Collection of American Coins, the Property of Lorin G. Parmalee, of Boston*. (Cambridge University Press, 1873).

²² David Galtfelter, "Speculations on the New England Stiver," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 15, No. 1, January, Series 45 (1976) : 533; see also *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 2, July Series 49 (1977) : 592

²³ B. W. Barnard, "The Use of Private Tokens for Money in the United States," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (Aug., 1917), pp. 600-634

²⁴ Breen, Walter, *Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U. S. and Colonial Coins*. (New York, London, Toronto, Sydney, Auckland : F. C. I. Press, Doubleday, 1988) : 41, see entry number 247.

²⁵ Dickeson, 252, plate XX, figure 3. The middle initial of Curtis is K, not H.

²⁶ Thomas A. Kays, "When Cross Pistareens Cut Their Way Through the Tobacco Colonies," *The Colonial Newsletter*, April (2001) : 2169-2199.

²⁷ Henry Chapman, "Warning," *The Numismatist*, Vol. XXIV, No. 11, November (1911) : 405.

²⁸ Edgar H. Adams, "Live American Numismatic Items," *The Numismatist*, Vol. XXV, No. 1, January (1912) : 5. Photographs of four counterfeit New England coins.



HISTORICAL NOTE

Jack Howes: Attached is a lot description from the Thomas Elder Scott Sale, 1914. He was kind of hard on his customers. I don't think we are likely to see this kind of public flogging again soon. Too bad, it's very colorful.

WILLOW TREE SHILLING.

1827 1652. Willow tree MASSACHUSETTS IN. REG. NEW ENGLAND. AN DOM 1652. XII. Good. This shilling formerly was the property of Mr. J. W. Scott of this city who exhibited it at the exhibit of American Coins at the American Numismatic Society. For this exhibit he was awarded the Society's medal. After disposing of his coin business it came into my hands and was first offered in a sale of wine and bid in by C. H. Stearns, of Boston, Mass., for around \$55.00. He did not take up the coin nor did he offer to pay for it. Then I put it up again and it was bid on and allotted to one E. S. Hayden, of Chicago. Said Hayden showed the coin around and finally returned it to the cataloguer by ordinary mail, not registered even. We made a draft on him later, which was not paid. That we have taken Messrs. Stearns and Hayden's names off our books for good goes without saying. We do not care to do business with them.

The coin is absolutely genuine and vouched for by Mr. Howland Wood, the Curator of the American Numismatic Society. Mr. Scott held it at \$100. It is now offered for absolute and final sale. As is common with all these rare pieces parts of the coin are rather weakly struck. It was never in better state. Plate.

CIRCULATION PATTERNS OF SMALL DENOMINATION REGAL SPANISH SILVER IN SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY DURING COLONIAL, CONFEDERATION AND EARLY FEDERAL TIMES

(Wayne H. Shelby)

Introduction: Upon study of the numerous colonial coins I have recovered while metal detecting in Burlington County New Jersey, it became evident that a large percentage of these coins were Spanish silver pieces. The actual percentage as documented in my article in the C4 Newsletter "Survey of Colonial Coins Recovered in Southern New Jersey – Part II" (Summer-2005, Volume 13, Number 2) was approximately 9% or 102 pieces of the 1116 coins recovered. This study will only evaluate Spanish silver coins recovered from the metal detecting sites 1 thru 71 outlined in my previous article. This represents 79 pieces in total (fifty-six 1/2 real pieces, fourteen 1 real pieces, and nine 2 reales pieces). An additional 23 coins have not been included in this study: 11 silver plated counterfeits (nine 8 reales, one 2 reale of the bust type and a single 1 real cob) are not appropriate for incorporation into this study, and 12 pieces recovered from other locations. No regal 4 or 8 reales were recovered from any of my listed sites. Only 2 cut regal coins were recovered out of the 79 Spanish silver pieces in the study, both being halves of 1 real cob's dug at site #29.

In the following discussion of the 71 metal detecting sites, use of the word "Spanish" means "Spanish American" except in 4 cases. These special circumstances are indicated by the Spanish Mint mark and are documented to the following site numbers (2, 5, 46 and 69).

After many years of recovering coins while metal detecting, I noticed a repeating pattern concerning the dates on the Spanish silver coins compared to the various copper coins recovered at the same location. Often, the Spanish pieces were dated much earlier than the coppers. I found that the most reliable source for identifying the age of a site was through an evaluation of the metal detected buttons and copper coin recoveries.

Using recovered copper coins as my main focus, I devised Tables 1 through 3 to provide a general guide to the circulation patterns of small denomination Spanish silver in Southern New Jersey during colonial and confederation times, as well as the early Federal period:

Table 1: Documents each Spanish silver piece from sites where **most** to **all** recovered copper coins **post-date** the year 1800. Only 4 of the 36 sites represented in this table have all recovered copper coins post-dating the year 1800.

Table 2: Documents each Spanish silver piece from sites where **most** to **all** recovered copper coins **pre-date** the year 1800.

Table 3: Documents each Spanish silver piece from sites where **most** recovered copper coins **pre-date** the year **1700**.

The primary tables are followed with summary ones:

Table 4: Shows the total number of Spanish Silver coins recovered from each site and the percentage of that total by coin type.

Table 5: Gives the percentages of each Spanish silver coin type recovered in comparison of the total number of coins recovered by site class.

Table 6: Shows the percentage of sites yielding Spanish silver.

In the case of a tie when comparing the numbers of copper coins post-dated 1800 and copper coins pre-dated 1800 from any individual site, the later date received priority in this study. In addition, some survey sites (1 thru 56) included only the more important coins and those possessing readable dates. The remainder of the identifiable coins by type were based on estimation of the general categorization of pre-1800 or post-1800.

The following is a useful guide to the reader revealing Spain's monarchs and their respective dates of rule:

Philip IV	1621-1665	Ferdinand VI	1746-1759
Charles II	1665-1700	Charles III	1759-1788
Philip V	1700-1746	Charles IIII	1788-1808
Louis I	1724	Ferdinand VII	1808-1833

Conclusion: An evaluation of the presented data indicates that the majority of small denomination Spanish silver coins used in the Southern New Jersey occurred late in the 18th century and continued well into the 19th century. Confirmation of this conclusion is provided in Table 1, which enumerates the sites where a majority of the metal-detected copper coins post-date the year 1800 were found. In this grouping, 66 Spanish silver coins were found, which represents 84% of all the Spanish coins in this study population. The number of Spanish silver coins fell drastically in the group of sites where a majority of the recovered copper coins pre-date the year 1800, as shown in Table 2. In this grouping of coins only 11 Spanish pieces or 14% of all the Spanish coins were found. A single site is listed in Table 3, where most recovered copper coins pre-date the year 1700. At this single site, 2 Spanish cobs or 3% of all the Spanish coins in the study were found. Though it is difficult to speculate from this single site, it may indicate the possibility that Spanish cobs circulated throughout this region as a rather large proportion of the circulated coinage, since these two Spanish cob coins represent 20% of the total coinage recovered at that site.

The following is an overview by Spanish silver type:

Bust type: By far the most dominant type that circulated in the Region.

Total: 65 of the 79 pieces in the study or 82%.

Table 1: 57 pieces out of 65 bust type or 88%

Table 2: 8 pieces out of 65 bust type or 12%

Pillar type: Circulated in rather small numbers in the Region.

8 of the 79 pieces in the study or 10%

Table 1: 5 pieces out of 8 pillar type or 62%

Table 2: 3 pieces out of 8 pillar type or 38%

Pistareen type: An uncommon type circulating in the Region.

3 of the 79 pieces in the study or 4%

Table 1: 3 pieces out of 3 pistareen type or 100%

Cob type: May have circulated in moderate numbers early in our history but overall became an uncommon type for the Region.

3 of the 79 pieces in the study or 4%

Table 1: 1 piece out of 3 cob type or 33%

Table 2: No cobs reported for this table.

Table 3: 2 pieces out of 3 cob type or 66%

This study reveals Southern New Jersey's dependence on copper coins as a primary source of small change during the 18th century. It is possible that New Jersey did not see large numbers of Spanish silver in circulation until after the U.S. Mint began operation in 1793. The reason for this is multifaceted, but in part could be due to the U.S. Mint's inability to keep up with the demand for small change. The Charles III bust silver coin was the most common type of Spanish silver coin carried in the pockets by early Americans in Southern New Jersey. They most often circulated with early American large cents and older worn foreign coins such as the English and Irish halfpence.

**TABLE 1: Sites Where a Majority of
Recovered Copper Coins Post-Date the Year 1800**

#	Site	Date	Type	Ruler	Denomination	Mint Mark	Total Coins Recovered
1		1785	Bust	Carolus III	2 real	Mexico City	24
		No data	Bust	Carolus III	2 real	Not legible	
3		1776	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	36
		1777	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Not legible	
		1791	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
		1814	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
		No date	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
4		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					36
5		1725	Pistareen	Phillp V	2 real	Seville	41
		1772	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
		1788	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
6		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					29
7		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					4
10		1769	Pillar	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	8
		1774	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
11		1781	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	83
		1788	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
		1797	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
		1803	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Mexico City	
		1803	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Mexico City	
		1814	Bust	Ferd. VII	1/2 real	Mexico City	
13		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					35
14	No date	Bust	Not legible		1/2 real	Not legible	4
19		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					5
22		No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					4
25		1776	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Bogota	7
		1795	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
27	1782	Bust	Carolus III		1/2 real	Not legible	13
28	1772	Bust	Carolus III		2 real	Guatemala	7
31	1788	Bust	Carolus III		1/2 real	Mexico City	11
32		1754	Pillar	Ferd. VI	1/2 real	Not legible	9
		1777	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
33		1753	Pillar	Ferd. VI	1 real	Mexico City	33
		1782	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
						Nueva	
		1783	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Guatemala	
		No date	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
	No date	Bust	Carolus III		1/2 real	Not legible	

Table 1 (Continued)

34	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					14
35	1774	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	6
36	1773	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	26
	1773	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Potosi	
	1774	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1781	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1781	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1782	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
	1783	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1784	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
	1786	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1786	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
	1802	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Nueva Guatemala	
	1807	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1816	Bust	Ferd. VII	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	No date	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
38	1772	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Not legible	15
42	1762	Pillar	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	26
	1778	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
43	1775	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Mexico City	5
44	1792	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	11
45	1778	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	9
46	1742	1/2 Pistareen	Phillip V	1 real	Madrid	5
	1789	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
47	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					11
49	1781	Bust	Carolus III	2 real	Mexico City	5
50	No date	Cobb	Not legible	1 real	Not legible	29
	1772	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1781	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Not legible	
	1782	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Not legible	
51	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					9
52	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					13
55	1771	Pillar	Carolus III	2 real	Mexico City	6
56	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					20
57	1774	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	11
	1781	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	1784	Bust	Carolus III	1/2 real	Mexico City	
	No date	Bust	Not legible	1/2 real	Not legible	
	No date	Bust	Not legible	1/2 real	Not legible	
61	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					1
69	1727	Pistareen	Phillip V	2 real	Seville	5
Total Spanish Silver: 66 Pieces or 11%.					Total Coins:	596

**TABLE 2: Sites Where Majority of
Recovered Copper Coins Pre-date the Year 1800**

#	Site	Date	Type	Ruler	Denomination	Mint Mark	Total Coins Recovered
2		1774 No date	Bust Bust	Carolus III Carolus III	1 real 1/2 real	Seville Not legible	14
8	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						3
9	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						20
12		1775 1782 1807 No date	Bust Bust Bust Bust	Carolus III Carolus III Carolus III Not legible	1 real 1 real 1/2 real 1/2 real	Not legible Mexico City Mexico City Not legible	61
16	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						11
16	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						4
17	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						4
18	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						3
20		1744	Pillar	Philip V	1/2 real	Mexico City	31
21	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						4
23	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						4
26	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						2
30	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						7
37	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						4
39	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						14
40	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						5
41	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						8
48	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						3
53	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						18
54		1787	Bust	Carolus III	2 real	Nueva Guatemala	14
58	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						6
59	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.						5

Table 2 (Continued)

60	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					7
62	1788	Pillar	Carolus III	2 real	Mexico City	13
	1781	Bust	Carolus III	1 real	Mexico City	
64	174(?)	Pillar	Phillip V	1/2 real	Not legible	7
65	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					6
66	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					5
67	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					8
68	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					1
70	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					2
71	No Spanish silver recovered at this site.					9
Total Spanish Silver: 11 Pieces or 3.6%					Total Coins:	303

TABLE 3: Sites Where a Majority of Recoverd Copper Coins Pre-Date the Year 1700

#	Site	Date	Type	Ruler	Denomlnation	Mint Mark	Total Coins Recovered
29	No date	Cobb	Not legible	1 real (cut 1/2)	Not legible		10
	No date	Cobb	Not legible	1 real (cut 1/2)	Bolivia		
Total Spanish Silver: 2 Pieces or 20%.					Total Coins:		10

RARITY SCALES – THEIR MEANINGS

(Ray Williams and Syd Martin)

INTRODUCTION. When talking about Rarity, we all need to be in agreement as to what a given rarity number (the R#) means. Here's a little history of Rarity Ratings...

HISTORICAL RARITY. In 1853, Noel Humphreys (1810-1879) wrote "The Coins of England"¹. Although neither of us own this book, Breen makes reference to Humphrey's rarity scale while discussing how it was adapted by Sheldon for use with Large Cents. We don't know exactly what this scale was.

In 1859, Montroville Dickeson's "American Numismatical Manual" had a rarity scale², which was used for NJ Coppers, along with other coinages. It was a series of one to three dots (• ••)

•	=	Scarce
••	=	Rare
•••	=	Very Rare

In 1860, W.W. Prime introduced a more extensive rarity scale. The one he proposed was R1 to R6, with R6 being the most rare.³ Following just a few years later, Sylvester Crosby, in his monumental work on colonial coins⁴ used a qualitative rarity scale that was similar to that developed by Prime:

C	R ⁴
R ¹	R ⁵
R ²	R ⁶
R ³	

from "Common" (C) thru R⁶ (the most rare). There was no quantitative relationship between the number of coins surviving and the rarity scale above. In 1881, Dr. Maris used the same rarity scale as Crosby for his treatise on New Jersey coppers; again, there is no reference defining quantity to rarity:⁵

In 1888 a 10-level rarity scale was introduced by Dr. Leroux, specifically as related to Canadian coins.⁶ This scale is:

1	Common	6	Very Rare
2	Easily obtained	7	Extremely Rare
3	Not easily obtained	8	Precious
4	obtained with difficulty	9	Very Precious
5	Rare	10	Extremely so, almost unique

This scale might be applied to French Colonial coinage, which is generally considered within the corpus of American colonials.

Our English cousins weighed in during 1910, with Dalton & Hammer publishing their opus on Condor Tokens.⁷ Their scale was:

Common
Fairly Common
Not Common
Scarce
R (Rare)
RR (Very Rare)
RRR (Extremely Rare)

And here again, there is considerable cross-over with American colonials (e.g., Franklin tokens, Starry Pyramid tokens, North Wales tokens).

In 1949, Dr. Sheldon wrote his classic "Early American Cents" and gave us a scale that quantified the scarcer Rarities, but left the more common rarities vague⁸:

R-8	1-3	Unique or Nearly Unique
R-7	4-12	Extremely Rare
R-6	12-30	Very Rare
R-5	31-75	Rare
R-4	76-200	Very Scarce
R-3		Scarce
R-2		Not so common
R-1		Common

In the July 1975 CNL, Bill Anton published his rarity scale⁹. He now quantifies all the rarity levels:

R-9	Unique	R-5	31-75
R-8	2-3	R4	76-150
R-7 High	4-6	R3	151-250
R7	7-9	R2	251-400
R-7 Low	9-12	R1	401 or more
R-6	13-30		

In 1988, Walter Breen wrote his Encyclopedia of US and Colonial Coins.¹⁰ Breen gives his explanation of rarity and has this rarity chart published.

R-8	Estimated 1-3 known	Unique or Nearly Unique
R-7	Estimated 4-12 known	Extremely Rare
R-6	Estimated 13-30 known	Very Rare

R-5	Estimated 31-75 known	Rare
R-4	Estimated 76-200 known	Very Scarce
R-3	Estimated 201-500 known	Scarce
R-2	Estimated 501-1250 known	Uncommon
R-1	Estimated over 1251 known	Common

There are three other scales that are potentially important to colonial coin collectors, because they are used by collectors/dealers whose areas of interest overlap American colonial coins. Specifically,

- L.B. Fauver is a prolific writer dealing primarily with American tokens.¹¹
- Jack Collins has been considered a foremost expert of Washingtoniana – early pieces of which are clearly in the colonial series.¹²
- Rulau/Fuld also deal extensively with early Washingtoniana.¹³

Their scales all have from R1 to R10, but the definitions are somewhat different:

RARITY	Fauver Scale	Collins Scale	Rulau/Fuld Scale
R-1	Greater than 5000	>5000	>4000
R-2	Between 2000 and 5000	2001-5000	2000-4000
R-3	Between 500 and 2000	501-2000	500-1999
R-4	Between 200 and 500	201-500	200-499
R-5	Between 75 and 200	76-200	75-199
R-6	Between 20 and 75	21-75	20-74
R-7	Between 10 and 20	11-20	10-19
R-8	Between 5 and 10	5-10	5-9
R-9	Between 2 and 4	2-4	2-4
R-10	Unique	1	1

Recently, Dennis Wierzba has written several papers about changing the rarity scale from one that was designed to accommodate Large Cents and their surviving numbers, to one specifically meant for colonial coins and their surviving numbers. Is this the time to discuss changing to a new rarity scale? Is one of the above scales more appropriate for us than the other are? We'll post Wierzba's suggested rarity scales here...

Dennis Wierzba's Modified Sheldon Rarity Scale¹⁴ appears to have taken the scale that Breen used and divided it to have more detail at most rarity levels. However, this has proven impractical because the amount of precision implied by R-1 to R-4+ is not presently available.

R-9	Unique	R-4+	76-137
R-8	2-3	R-4-	138-200
R-7+	4-7	R-3+	201-350
R-7-	8-12	R-3-	351-500
R-6+	13-21	R-2+	501-875
R-6-	22-30	R-2-	875-1250

R-5+ 31-52
R-5- 53-75

R-1 Greater than 1250 specimens

In 2000, Dennis again provided us with a proposal for a new rarity chart¹⁵. Of all the rarity charts seen, this one makes the most sense for the classification of State Coppers and most other "colonial" coin types.

R-9	Unique
R-8	2-3
R-7+	4-7
R-7-	8-12
R-6+	13-21
R-6-	22-30
R-5+	31-52
R-5-	53-75
R-4	76-137
R-3	138-200
R-2	201-350
R-1	more than 350

Based upon observation of the current auction catalogs of the major firms, these Wierzbica scales seems to prevail for rarities above R5- and for lesser rarities the Breen scale seems to be used.

Is the colonial numismatic community ready for a change, or at least the adoption of a consistent, well-understood rarity scale?

CONCLUSION. Whereas one might suspect that "rarity" is a commonly agreed upon term in the numismatic community, such is demonstrably not the case. Is this important to the colonial coin collector? Perhaps, particularly in the rarer categories. For example, there are numerous series that cross over with colonials – particularly Washingtonia, Condors, and Early American Tokens. Each of these series use rarity scales different from that accepted by colonial collectors, and buying a coin from one of these series under the misassumption that the "R" number given for it conveys the absolute rarity a colonial collector would ascribe to that "R" number could be a real disaster.

ENDNOTES

¹ Humphreys, Henry Noel, *The Coins of England* (2nd Ed), William Smith:London, 1846.

² Dickeson, Montroville Wilson; *The American Numismatist Manual*, J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, PA: 1859 page 117 as an example.

³ Prime, W.W., *Harper's New Monthly Magazine*, "Coin in America," March 1860 (Volume XX, Number CXVIII), pp468-478

⁴ Crosby, Sylvester S.; *The Early Coins of America; and the Laws Governing Their Issue*; Author Published, Boston, 1875.

⁵ Maris, Edward, M.D.; *A Historic Sketch of the Coins of New Jersey. With a Plate*; Bellows:Philadelphia, 1881.

⁶ Leroux, Jos., M.D., *Medaillier Du Canada – Canadian Coin Cabinet*, Beauchemin et Fils:Montreal; 1888.

⁷ Dalton, R. & Hamer, S.H., *The Provincial Token-Coinage of the 18th Century*, 1910

⁸ Sheldon, William H., M.D., *Penny Whimsy – A Revision of Early American Cents 1793-1814* (Edition in Collaboration Dorothy Pascbal and Walter Breen), Durst Publications, New York, NY: 1990; pp42-44

⁹ Anton, William T., "The Copper Coinage of the State of New Jersey"; *Colonial Newsletter*, July, 1975, Seq Page 502

¹⁰ Breen, Walter, *Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins*; Doubleday, NY, NY, 1988; p707

¹¹ Fauver, L.B.; *American Coanthers, Part 1*; Oak Grove Publications, Menlo Park, CA:1983; p14.

¹² Collins, Jack; *Fixed Price List – Washingtonia from the Estate of F.C.C. Boyd*; 1991

¹³ Rulau, Russel and Fuld, George; *Medallic Portraits of Washington (2nd Ed)*; Krause Publications, Iola, WI: 1999; p5

¹⁴ Wierzba, Dennis, "Revised Sheldon Rarity Ratings Estimates for NJ Coppers", *C4 Newsletter*, Vol 6, No. 4, Winter, 1998; pp37-38.

¹⁵ Wierzba, Dennis, "The Colonial Rarity Scale – New Jersey Coppers," *C4 Newsletter*, Vol 8, No. 2, Summer, 2000; p41



ANS' FIRST 'NUMISMATIC CONVERSATION'

On 26 July 2006, the American Numismatic Society (ANS) held the first of (hopefully) many "Numismatic Conversations." This event was led by Robert Hoge, and was a discussion of Connecticut Coppers, with emphasis on coins in the ANS collections. The presentation was attended by many C4 members, both in person and via conferencing interlinks over the internet (the teleconferencing was handled by Bennett Hübner and Ray Williams).

Robert reported that approximately 10% of the estimated surviving Connecticut coinage is held by the ANS. Highlights of the coins shown included:

1785: 7.3-D (probably finest known)

1786: 4.2-S

1787 (all R7 or higher): 1.2-mm, 2.3-T (one of two), 33.14-Z.2 (unique),
33.19-Z.4, 33.20-Z.11, 33.35-Z.9, 33.39-Z.13, and 13-87CT

But this is only a sampling of their superb Connecticut collection.

Some candid shots of attendees, most of whom are C4 members, are below:



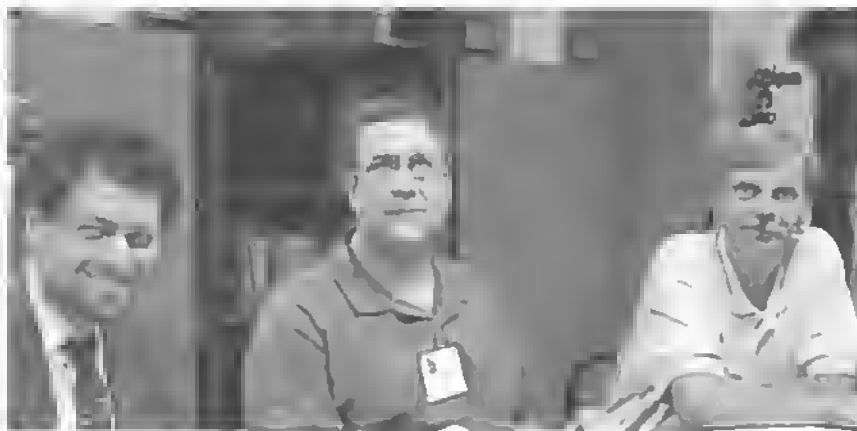
Left Photo: Ray Williams (C4 President) and Eric Cheung.

Right Photo: Robert Hore (ANS, Moderator)

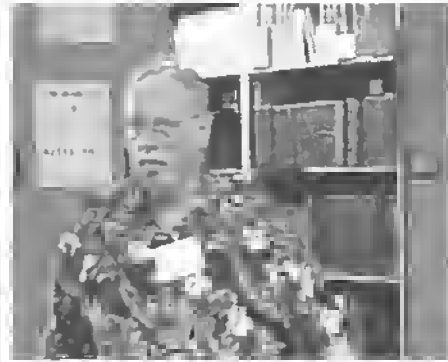


Left Photo: Don Partrick (ANS President) and Roger Siboni (ANS VP)

Right Photo: Dave Palmer, Syd Martin (C4 Newsletter Editor), Robert Martin



Dave Menchell, Dave Wnuck and Leo Shane (C4 Librarian) in rapt attention.



Left Photo: Ute Wartenberg Kagan (ANS Executive Director)

Right Photo: Tony Terranova

Ray Williams had this to say of this Numismatic Conversations meeting: "I had a wonderful time today and I appreciate having the opportunity to be a small part of what was happening. I believe that these events will bring the ANS to collectors across the country in the near future."



THE "ST. PATRICKS" COINAGE ENIGMA

(Dave Palins)

Is it possible that the "St. Patricks" coinage will turn out to be the DaVinci Code of colonial numismatics? With all the conspiracy theories that are about citing the Vatican, Peter Blondeau, Oliver Cromwell, Charles I, etc., etc., it may be that all these convoluted attempts to "fit" an answer are off the mark. After extensive and exhaustive research, nothing concrete has come to light -- so could this be saying something? Sometime ago I decided to take a fresh look at the subject. So I thought "what if everything points to these coins not being what everyone wants?" So little is known for sure that in fact any theory is sound. So I took a sort of Sherlock Holmes approach, and decided "what if these coins are not 'St. Patricks' coins after all?" A good, uncontested starting point is the shield on the halfpenny. In the opinion of the Dublin City Library and Archive, the six castles do not appear to represent the Dublin City coat-of-arms (a copy of the letter is reproduced on the following page). However, the State Herald's Office informally conceded that it may be a corrupted version.

I am leaning towards these coins not being made specifically for Ireland; rather, I think that they may have been an ecclesiastical or trade token. Given the times there is no reason not to think that whoever commissioned these pieces lived to take delivery, so no manufacturer is going to keep them. They may have just been sold to any old opportunist who saw a use for them. Given that they appear not to be regal, there is nothing to say

Fall 2006



Dublin City Council
DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL

From: Dublin City Library and Archive, Pearse St. Library, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2

Tel: 01-674 4896 (direct line) **Fax:** 01-674 4879 **e-mail:** cllarchives@dublincity.ie

26 September 2006



Re: St. Patrick's Halfpenny Coin

Dear Mr. Palins

Thank you for your letter dated 21 September, which has been referred to me by Padraic O'Brien, along with the illustration that you supplied of St. Patrick's halfpenny coin. We note that this coin features a motif of six towers or castles, which appear to be on fire.

The Dublin City Coat of Arms was granted in 1607 and derived from the 13th century Dublin City Seal, which featured three watchtowers over one of the city gates. From its inception in 1607, the Coat of Arms featured three castles that were based on the original three watchtowers. The modern Dublin City Logo, which is on this letterhead, also features three castles.

We do not have any evidence to show that six castles were ever included on the Dublin City Coat of Arms. For specialist assistance in identifying the six castles motif on the coin, we would advise you to call to the State Heraldic Museum, 2 Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

We enclose our brochure on the Dublin City Coat of Arms which may be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Mary Clark
Dublin City Archivist

Encl.

that these coins could not have been used to facilitate trade in/with Ireland – thus resulting in them being found in the ground in Ireland. Now, suppose these coins were not popular in Ireland. Could it not be that they were sold off and exported to the colonies for use there?

Granted, I have yet to unearth anything to prove the above, but it looks to be an option worth considering as the “fit them into Ireland” hasn’t proved successful. These coins could have been produced anywhere in Europe and by many different people. I am just not happy with the conjecture that they were struck to circulate in Ireland, given the Protestant ethos of the realm at the time.

Sherlock said that if it is not something then whatever is left is the answer. Thus, I go for a variant on Will Nippon’s Daily Double – they were not made for Ireland and the two coins werer not made at the same time.



UNUSUAL TYPE 1 BROCKAGE IN A KING GEORGE I FARTHING

(Roger Moore MD, Steve Frank, and James C. Spilman)

INTRODUCTION: A recent exploration of how colonial brockages were produced¹, indicates that the first step is the abnormal adherence of a planchet to one of the dies. This planchet, which has received the impression of the opposing die on the open face, then serves as the die face as additional planchets are fed into the press. The result is stamping of the new planchet with the face of the free die and, on the other side, the impression which exists on the adherent planchet. The product of this sequence is a common type I brockage, where one side has the image of one die and the other side has an exact mirror image of the same die. Though type 1 brockages are not uncommon in colonial coinages, finding a die maker (planchet which stuck to the die to produce the brockage), is quite rare. This paper will explore an unusual type I brockage.

DESCRIPTION: A recent discovery of a King George I farthing, which has the defined aspects of a type I brockage, is confusing in that it does not seem to fulfill all the requirements of a normal brockage. The coin, shown in Figure 1, is a regal George I farthing which was produced sometime between 1719 and 1724. Its characteristics are:

Weight – 68.9 grains
Diameter – X axis – 22.9 mm; Y axis – 22.7 mm
Obverse/Reverse Die Axis – 360 degrees

Description –

Obverse - has the typical George 1 farthing obverse with some weakness in the legend between 12 and 4 o'clock, as well as between 8 to 9 o'clock.

Reverse – In a medal turn orientation an exact mirror image of King George I from the face of the coin exists in the middle of the coin's reverse. The exact mirror image has an axis of 360 degrees which is typical of a type 1 brockage. The extraordinary finding is the presence of a large semi circular crescent in relief from 7 o'clock to 1 o'clock as well as an additional smaller crescent shaped area of raised copper from 3 o'clock to 5 o'clock.



Figure 1. The obverse and reverse, respectively, of a Type I brockage of a George 1 farthing of the 1719-24 period.

ANALYSIS: The medal turn axis orientation and the presence of the mirror image of the obverse on the exactly opposite side of the coin argue for this coin being a normal type 1 brockage. However, the unusual raised crescents of copper on the brockage side of the coin confuse its interpretation. In order for this to be a true type 1 brockage, the brockage maker or “backing piece” (the planchet that remained on the die after the initial strike)², could not have been a normal planchet but rather a misshaped piece of copper. Initially a crescent shaped piece of copper, perhaps a piece of copper left over from the planchet cutting sheet, was thought to be the backing piece. However, further consideration directed to the conclusion that the backing piece could have been simply a mis-cut planchet that contained a circular planchet cutter clip. The possible scenario in the development of this unusual brockage was:

- 1) An abnormal planchet having a circular planchet cutter clip was struck normally but then remained on sitting on the lower (reverse) die. The strike impressed the image of Britannia on the down side which remained seated on the die and the face King George I was struck on the opposite side.
- 2) A second normal planchet was then placed in the press (the coin under discussion) and struck on one side by the normal obverse die with the King George I image and on the other side by the first clipped coin with the image of George I on it, thereby producing a mirror image of King George I.
- 3) However, due to the void in the metal of the misshapen first planchet (backing piece), metal on the second planchet (coin under discussion) oozed into the void left by the absent metal in the clipped area of the backing piece, thereby producing the raised circular metal area on the brockage side of the coin from 3 o'clock to 5 o'clock. Because there was not enough metal to completely fill the void in the backing piece, the metal never reached the uncovered portion of the Britannia die, thereby leaving no impression of the Britannia die on the small semicircular raised area of metal.
- 4) The void in the backing piece (first planchet) caused the second planchet (the coin being discussed) to cock slightly during the strike so that an impression did not strike up in the area opposite the void (7 o'clock to 1 o'clock).
- 5) Hopefully, a few of these odd brockages were made before the misshaped backing piece fell off. For comparative purposes a normally struck King George I, 1721 farthing is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. A normally struck 1721 George I farthing.

CONCLUSIONS: An unusual type I brockage is described which was made from a backing piece planchet that had a circular die clip. No other brockages with this characteristic are known to the authors. Since a backing piece can be retained for a number of strikes leading to the formation of a die cap, other similar brockages may exist. Of greater interest is if someone could discover the extraordinary backing piece that was associated with this brockage's production.

REQUEST: The authors are not aware of any “backing” pieces in existence which are anything other than normally shaped planchets. If anyone has an abnormally shaped backing piece, the authors would be interested in being informed.

ENDNOTES

¹ Moore, R. and Mossman, P., Die Clashing, Die Caps, and Brockages, The Colonial Newsletter- A Research Journal in Early American Numismatics; Volume 46, Number 1; April 2006, Serial Number 130, pp. 2983-2993.

² Spilman, J., “MOS, Odd and Curious Connecticut MOS Specimens”, The Colonial Newsletter, Volume 13, Number 4, December 1974, pages 460-470.



TRAVEL NOTE

John Lorenzo: “Every family trip I take to Europe I make sure I factor in some numismatics - if possible. I was recently in Rome in 7/2006 and visited the Museo Numismatico della Zecca which originated in 1870 when the kingdom of Italy acquired the Numismatic Cabinet of the Papal Mint for didactic and cultural purposes. It was only 3 blocks from my hotel and my visit was just a mere four hours, as I had no reservation but was the only visitor. My initial impression is that in Italy numismatics is virtually non-existent as a hobby since only about six people signed the register book for the year to enter this museum - I could not really locate a true coin store within Rome but did find a half decent philatelic business. This museum houses the largest Papal Medal collection in existence, with 1913 pieces, and has a current collection of 20,000 coins and medals. This includes the Mazio recoinages, and the museum also houses the original coining tools for these coinages. Did not find anything directly linking St. Patrick's pieces to the Vatican but of course the Vatican library and its museum was not part of my trip. A private sitting into the Vatican Library must take some effort, based on my brief walk-through of this area during my visit via guided tour.”

C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

Stacks in NY has been a very good supporter of the club. They have donated many soft copies of important auction catalogs as well as a complete set of hardbound copies of all of the Ford sales. The library, however, does not have a complete set of softbound Ford sale catalogs. We are missing Ford 2, 3 and 4. Please consider donating or selling a copy of these important auction catalogs to the C4 library. Please contact me if you can donate or sell any of these catalogs, Thanks.

Thank You to all for your donations to the C4 Library. Your contributions are appreciated by all C4 members. Below are new items donated to the club which are now available for loan to all C4 members. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org.

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Hoge, Robert, *A Survey of the American Numismatic Society's Collection of Confederation Period Connecticut Coppers*, New York, NY, July 2006 (4 pages) (Donated by Bob Hoge)

Veach, William N., *The Gold Frog (Riddle)*, Vienna, VA, 1991 (Donated by Roger Moore)

London Coins – The Dublin Coin Auction, 17 February 2006, Dublin, Ireland (Donated by Dave Palins)

London Coins – The Andrew Wayne Collection Of English Milled Coinage, 3-4 June 2006, Kent, UK (Donated by Dave Palins)

Stacks – John J. Ford Jr. Collection of Coins, Medals and Currency Part XV (American Paper Currency: American Revolution, Confederation Periods, Continental Currency, Guaranteed US Notes, Civil War Scrip & Banknotes), 4 October 2006, New York, NY (Soft bound copy donated by Stacks)

Stacks – John J. Ford Jr. Collection of Coins, Medals and Currency Part XVI (Medallic Distinctions Awarded to First Peoples; Nueva Espana, Lo Nouvelle-France, British North America, The United States of America), 17 October 2006, New York, NY (Soft bound copy donated by Stacks)

Thanks also to the American Numismatic Society for their on going donations of the Colonial Newsletter and to the Early American Coppers Club for donations of Penny Wise Newsletter.

NOTE: *Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. My email is:*

Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com or write to me at [REDACTED]

Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	\$50	\$80	\$105	\$130	4 1/2"x7 1/2"
1/2 page	\$30	\$55	\$75	\$95	4 1/2"x3 3/4"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional \$10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

WANTED-- Photos for the C4 archives of any unusual or significant colonial varieties.
E-mail to mkringo@aol.com, or mail to Mike Ringo, [REDACTED]

Thanks to an ANS grant I am working on a study of circulating coins and currencies of the French and Indian Wars period (1689-1763). I would be very grateful for information on any American and Canadian metal detector finds dating to this period as well as any coins in collections that have find provenances attached to them. Contact: Oliver D.

Hoover, [REDACTED]
Email: oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca

I am interested in acquiring counterstamped Wood's Hibernia halfpennies and farthings, or photos of them. I'm also seeking unusual edge markings on Kentucky pieces. Syd Martin sfmartin5@comcast.net

Barry Tayman and I, under a grant from the ANS, are working on a monograph on Canadian Blacksmith tokens. We are seeking information from collectors, especially about the rarer pieces. I can be contacted at my home address or through my web site.

George Fuld, Sc.D.

Fuld1@comcast.net

For sale (1) 1776 Machins Mills Vlack 6-76A large date XF with dark brown color \$3750; (2) 1772 Vlack 24-72C High rarity 6, nice VF(condition census) with tan color and super choice surfaces \$13,500.
Ed Sarrafian, [REDACTED] (ershye@aol.com)

C4 Offers Outstanding Vlack Book on French Colonial Coins. The third monograph published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4) has just been released, *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas* by the noted numismatist Robert A. Vlack. This is the first comprehensive guide to the billon coinages that circulated in the French colonies of the Americas, which included Canada, Louisiana and the French West Indies. An 18-page introduction discusses the history of the coins and includes a rarity listing of the various counterstamped billon coins authorized for use in Canada during the seventeenth century. This is followed by an extensive and well-illustrated catalogue of the coins (pp. 20-157) reflecting over thirty years of research by Vlack on this topic. The catalog proceeds from the *Mosquetaires* of 30 and 15 *deniers* to the billon *Sous Marqués* and Half-*Sous Marqués* and then to contemporary counterfeits. It next includes a full listing of billon coinage and counterstamped billon coins of the French West Indies, as well as a discussion of the coins known as "black dogs." The work was amended and edited by Philip L. Mossman with typesetting and graphic design by Gary Trudgen.

In the catalogue every denomination is divided into sections, one section for each of the various French mints producing that denomination; some denominations were issued from as many as thirty different mints! Each mint section contains an explanation of all the mintmasters and engravers associated with that mint during the years of issue. The specific coins from the mint are then cataloged by year with annotations on mintage, rarity and variants. There are numerous illustrations with enlarged details of overdates and errors that are especially useful to the user in identification. This is the first time such information has been made available in English.

The folio size hardcover book (x+157 pp.) is available for \$50.00 US plus \$5.00 for shipping (\$6.50 to Canada and \$13.50 to Europe) from Ray Williams, [REDACTED]

[illegible]

Wanted to buy: Ford sale catalogues, nos. 1-4 and 6-11. Please contact Oliver Hoover at oliver.hoover@sympatico.ca.

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[illegible]

1652 Willow Tree shilling. Noe 3-D, R-7+, XF. NGC/NCS \$125K (call or write)
 1652 Pine Tree three pence, Noe 37, Small 5, Nice Sharp XF/AU coin. Original luster of russet, smoky blue and grey. Red Book list \$8K – only \$4,950.
 1670 St. Patrick Farthing, AU/UNC w/razor sharp details – every jewel on crown, harpstrings are extra bold. Mostly smooth and glossy with green patina, like Roman coin. NGC/NCS genuine w/corrosion; X-rare (R7+), slight rub. . . Au lists at \$8,500, UNC lists at \$20K – only \$5,900.
 1722 Wood's halfpenny, harp left. Scarce, smooth and glossy, just super. PCGS VF-35, only \$550
 1724 Woods halfpenny; PCGS XF-45, Super. Scarce. . . \$650
 1723 Rosa Americana twopence. AU, light/medium brown. Nelson 14. Centuries old scratch hidden under patina. Nice. Lists for \$1,950, only \$995.
 1766 Pitt Token. Rarely for sale. XF, near perfect. \$2,500. Another, VF, light brown, smooth \$1,950.

1786 Vermont "Baby Head," RR9: VF30. Exceptional surfaces for type – hard, smooth, glossy. Lists at \$6,500, only \$2,500. Has planchet fissure, but is so much nicer than most.

1786 Vermontensium, RR6; XF+ detail. Typical Vermont planchet problems. Bold sun face, etc. \$1,500.
1787 Vermont RR27, XF/AU choice surfaces, exceptional. Date fully on planchet. Only \$1,450.

CONNECTICUT COPPERS:

- 1785, M3.4-F.2, "ET LIR". Afro head type, XF/AU detail, .flan laminations, dark, light even granularity. lists at \$2,750, only \$750.
- 1787, M43.1-Y PCGS VG-10, Perfect light brown, \$130.
- 1787, M-4L "Horned Bust" AU/UNC detail. Corroded w/even granularity, \$495.
- 1787, M30-hh.1. VF, decent. Planchet clip as made, "ET LIR". Only \$350 (list \$550).
- 1787, M33.16-Z.15 (R4+) VF/XF decent. Deformed "B" – Lists \$1,200, only \$575.
- 1788 M9-E VF Bold details, weak center, Rare R-5+. Nice & smooth, only \$450.
- 1788 M16.1-D F/VF. Bold detail, lists \$550, only \$175.

NEW JERSEY COPPERS

- 1787, M43-d PCGS VG-10, \$185.
- 1787, M48-g F/VF w/nice wood-grain look. Ex R. August, lists \$550, only \$295.
- 1787, M62-q LDS (causes weak centers), F/VF smooth. Nice at \$220.
- 1787 Old-time electro w/o "COPY." Deceptive/attributable. Die crack. XF. \$50.
- 1787 NJ Serpent Head, M-54K, VF25. Planchet flaws. List \$1,800, onl \$950.
- 1786 NJ "Bridle Variety", Maris 18-M. Super wide planchet, nice light brown. UNC with best of strikes. NGC Genuine – superb coin on all levels. Bridle very clear. Reduced to \$4,750.
- 1788 NJ "Running Fox" Maris 78-DD VF/XF (R5+; 30+ known). Smooth and glossy with strong fox. R.B. lists at \$4K, only \$2,950 [Other NJ coppers if interested.]

WASHINGTON TOKENS

- Washington Double Head – VF20, Nice light brown problem free, lists \$275, only \$195.
- 1783 Washington & Independence. PGGS AU-55. Light brown, glossy with mint luster. Rare full strike. Extra choice. Lists \$1,750; however, only \$1,250. Super eye appeal.
- 1783 Washington Ship halfpenny. PCGS XF-40 (old lime green holder). Lovely and problem free. List \$800, but only \$695.
- 1783 Georgivs Trivmpho. PCGS VF-20. A pleasant, problem free example of a "tougher type". . . \$625

OTHER EARLY COINAGE

- 1786 Castorland, 14.6 gms. In silver. Early restrike w/P.E. Centers bulge. Proof or PL, MS-65 or better. Lovely russet amber toning w/cartwheel luster. A lesser XF+ recently sold at ANR Auction for \$1,900; this only \$1,600.
- 1781 North American Tokens – all nice. PCGS: VF-35 for \$590, VF-25 for \$350. Raw: VF-20 for \$275 and F for \$130.
- 1688 American Plantation tokens (1/24 Real) NGC/NCS AU Details corroded; slight tin pest. Original Breen 80, Newman 1-A. Breen states "Very Rare" (R6). Fields mostly smooth and glossy. Every hair on horses mane is razor sharp. Close to UNC. Inexpensive at \$1,850.
- 1688 American Plantations Token. Original, near uncirculated, minimal tin test. Newman 4-E (original – no die cracks). Full detail. \$1,500.
- 1792 Kentucky, AU/UNC. Smooth, glossy & mark free- choice. Below RB AU! @ \$595.
- 1783 Nova Constellatio Blunt Rays. Full Bold strike. XF40/45. Nice strong date. \$895
- 1785 Nova Constellatio (Breen 1112) small, close date (This is R7+). Missing from nearly all collections. XF w/full God's eye and rays but retains central weakness which is diagnostic. Lt. Brn. Smooth & Nice. Value of \$10,000, Rcd Book at \$6,000. Special for only \$5,500.
- 1783 Nova Constellatio, Crosby 1-A, Breen 1106. Large U.S., Pointed rays. AU. Obv has greenish discolor on 20% and scattered small flan voids. Lists at \$3,000, only \$1,450.
- 1760 VOCE POPULI coppers: (1) XF+, Nelson 4 "Imperial Head" (scarce) Lt, even micro-granularity. \$450; (2) "P" in front of face. Roughness at top of head. Nelson-12. XF. Scarce, \$750.
- 1794 Myddleton Token Mule (Breen 1077). 1800s restrike, X-rare. NGC Proof 64 Gem Ultra Camco. Original dies. Beautiful strike & complicated design. Exceptional - Finest? \$17,500
- 1787 NY Excelsior, Eagle's Head Right ("Sinister Eagle"). R-7 (Breen: "X-rare, virtually all specimens low grade and damaged.") Just misses XF (VF-35); NGC/NCS Corroded VF. Strong overall detail despite minor problems. Light, scattered granularity near rim. Still good eye appeal – probably #2 coin. 90% smooth and glossy with hints of mint red. \$19,500
- 1787 Immunis Columbia, Eagle Reverse. VF/XF Light Scattered granularity. Good eye appeal. \$4,950.

- 1787 Fugio, N-10-T. "One over One" variety (R6, 12-30 known). Fine+, smooth with minor reverse scratch. . . \$1,250.
- 1787 Fugio, N-22-M. (R5, 30+ known) VF/XF. Very light, even graininess on both sides – Nice . . . \$950 [Other Fugios if interested, including a 3-D.]
- 1795 NY TAL. NGC Proof 64 Bn – a gem, probable #1 (R87). 1794 Proofs exist and are rare, a 1795 proof is newsworthy. Razor- sharp light brown iridescence. I've found no reference to 1795 proof but this has clearly been prepared as one. Worth many times \$12,500.
- 1787 Auctori Plebis AU-50+ Smooth and Glossy. Light golden brown. Mark free super coin with mint luster. R.B. list \$2,400, but only \$1,950.
- 1758 George II French and Indian Wars (Betts 416). Medal tastefully lists British and American victories. Copper, 43mm; XF. Smooth and glossy with a few scattered contact marks. Rare. . . \$1,650
- 1781 Libertas Americana (Betts 615). An American classic, personally commissioned/ designed by Ben Franklin. Fewer than 100 struck with only a handful of survivors. The "queen" of American Medals from which the Large cent and halfcent designs sprang. 47.88mm; XF with a few hairlines and ticks. Own a legend not for \$60K but for only \$9,800.
- 1817 James Monroe Indian Peace Medal (Julian IP-8). 76mm; bronze. UNC with slightest cabinet rub. Fantastic Orange/Bronze. Great eye appeal. Inexpensive and very rare. Only \$1,600
- 1694 Elephant token. Thin Flan, X-rare, AU+ perfection coin; lt cream brown. Super eye appeal. Light rub and wear \$6,000.
- 1694 Elephant Token, Thick Planchet. VG/F \$350.

Many more medals and coins available. Please call or write for catalog. Authenticity guaranteed for life. All coins are returnable for seven days – no reason needed – as long as they are not damaged or pulled from slab/holder. Satisfaction guaranteed. ALWAYS BUYING. Frank Vivalo, [REDACTED]. [Terms can be arranged for large-ticket items.]



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